(d) The suggestions made by the NIC relating to the State Governments are referred to them for taking suitable action.

**Agitation on Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council**

†1290. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the atmosphere created due to the ongoing agitation on Gorkha Hill Council in Darjeeling region of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the decisions taken by Government so far regarding the demands being made in this agitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (b) Government is aware of the agitation launched by Gorkha Janmukti Morcha and some others in the Darjeeling region of West Bengal, demanding removal of Shri Subash Ghisingh from the position of caretaker Administrator of the existing Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council (DGHC), scrapping the proposal for establishing an Autonomous Council under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution for the Darjeeling Hill areas and grant of statehood. According to available information the agitation was withdrawn following an announcement that Shri Subas Ghisingh would be resigning from the post of Administrator, DGHC. Shri Ghisingh has since resigned from this post on 10th March, 2008, and the Commissioner, Jalpaiguri Division has been appointed as Administrator of the DGHC.

(c) Two Bills, namely, the Constitution (One Hundred and Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2007 and the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2007 were introduced in the Lok Sabha on 30.11.2007 for creation of a new Council *viz.* Gorkha Hill Council Darjeeling under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution for the Darjeeling Hill areas in the State of West Bengal. The Bills were referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination. The Committee has presented its report on 28.2.2008. The matter is pending.

**Increasing crime rate in the country**

1291. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in its latest report has recently revealed that the overall crime rate in the country has alarmingly increased and the percentage of crime against women is very high;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Government has since taken any steps to check the increasing crimes against women and given and directions to the State Governments to control crimes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi